

BOURNE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

Medical Officer of Health

J. A. Galletly,

M.A., M.B., B.Chr., F.R.C.P. (Lond.)

Sanitary Inspector

J. S. Fisher, C.R.O.I.

FOR THE YEAR 1945

BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector
for the Year 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of the Bourne Urban
District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Report and that of
your Sanitary Inspector for the year 1945.

A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area, 10,103 acres.

Population 5,200 (Estimated). Registrar General's figures for
1944—5166.

Number of Inhabited Houses 1,421

Rateable Value £25,751. Sum represented by a 1d. rate £102.

Vital Statistics (not corrected by the Registrar General).

	Male	Female	Total	
Births	...	29	25	54 Born in Bourne
Deaths	...	19	27	46
(not including non-resident deaths 11 Male and 7 Female, Total 18)				
Total number of births in 1944—80, Males 44, Females 36.				

Deaths from Puerperal Causes Non-Resident Female.

„ Measles	0
„ Whooping Cough	1
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0

Causes of Death.

	Resident		Non-Resident	
	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	1	7	
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	4	3	1
Whooping Cough	...			1
Heart Diseases	...	5	13	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	3	2	1
Cancer	...	1	2	2
Pneumonia	...	2		1
Bronchitis	...	1	2	
Infantile Convulsions	...		1	
Road Traffic Accidents	...		1	1
Suicide	...		2	
Diabetes	...		2	
Senility	...	1		
Diseases of the Kidney	...	1		
General Paralysis of the Insane				1
Disease of the Bone	...			1

B. Health Services of the Area.

The personnel of the Health Services remains the same.

Another difficult year with refugees from bombarded London adding to the work has been got through without catastrophe.

The work of the Nurses has been beyond praise, without them the health services, particularly the maternity work could not have been done. Another nurse is urgently needed and another car. Home helps are non-existent.

Hospital accommodation for major cases is often difficult to obtain, particularly for midwifery.

The Scabies nurse has again rendered invaluable help.

C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The new 1945 Water Act may at long last settle the question of unsealed bores.

Bug infestation due to foreign importation has been dealt with.

There is serious overcrowding.

The sanitary accommodation at the Approved School has been improved, but there is still no proper water carriage system.

The Refuse Dump at the Brick Pits is a serious nuisance.

Refuse collection almost broke down at times, due to failure to modernise the system before the war.

D.

Housing.

Owing to delays at higher levels very little progress has been made.

I regret the proposal to build new houses at Dyke. No new houses should be built unless every modern convenience, ample water, water closets, and proper sewage disposal are available, and none of these obtain at Dyke.

The condition of many of the Council Houses leaves much to be desired.

E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

See the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

The delay in giving the Slaughter house proper water is due to too many departments having a say in the matter. It should be remedied forthwith.

F. Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under age groups :—

Under	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Dysentery.	Scarlet Fever.
1 year	0	0	2	1	0	3	11	0	0	0
1—2	0	0	1	0	0	6	9	0	0	0
2—3	0	0	0	0	0	10	6	0	1	0
3—4	0	0	0	0	0	9	10	0	0	0
4—5	0	0	0	0	0	7	9	0	0	1
5—10	0	0	1	0	0	37	46	0	1	5
10—15	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	3	0
15—20	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
20—35	2	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	3	0
35—45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
45—65	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0
65 & over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Totals ...	2	1	+	1	0	81	98	5	12	11

Admitted to Hospital	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
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Cancer Deaths. Male 70—Stomach.

Female 82—Stomach. 62—Uterus.

Died away—Male 69—Bowel.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. 0—5 years 76%. 5 to 15 years 85%.

Scabies. Cases dealt with—Home 3. Cleansing Centre 85.

Tuberculosis.—New Cases and Mortality during 1945 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1— 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2— 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15—25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—35	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
35—45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and over	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

I wish to thank my fellow officials for their constant help and support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETRY.

Surveyor's and Sanitary Inspector's Office,
North Street, Bourne, Lincs.,
11th March, 1946.

J. A. GALLETTY, Esq., M.A., M.B., B.Chir. (Camb.), D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
Bourne Urban District.

Sir,

ANNUAL REPORT, 1945.

I have the honour to present my Sixteenth Annual Report on the Public Health work carried out by me in the Bourne Urban District, this being for the year 1945. Once again only a brief summary is given.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

At long last the Council decided to adopt more modern and economical means of refuse collection, and in November an order was placed for an 8.9-cubic yard S.D. Freighter at a cost of £830. Delivery cannot be expected before May or June of this present year. In January (1946) the scavenging horse died, and no other being obtainable, refuse collection has now to depend on the Gas Department lorry. This is only available at irregular and infrequent intervals, and much inconvenience is being caused to householders by the inevitable delays in collection.

The question of a more hygienic means of disposal of the refuse was considered, and it was decided to include a Refuse Destructor among the post-war schemes. The Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to make provision for the plant in the lay-out of the scheme for a new Sewage Disposal Works.

One of the Refuse Collectors was awarded the Silver Medal and Certificate of the R.S.P.C.A. for rescuing the scavenging horse from deep water, at considerable risk to himself, after it had fallen with the cart and a load of refuse into the tip.

Salvage.

There was a further marked falling off in the amount of salvage which was made available for collection, there being only 42½ tons for the year. This sold for £249/13/11 and resulted in a profit of £51/4/0. The total amount of salvage collected and sold to the end of 1945 amounted to 452½ tons (including some 22000 bottles and jars), and it yielded £2303/9/10½, with a net profit to the relief of the rates of £1079/6/8. Apart from salvage being urgently needed by the country, which should itself be a sufficient incentive, it is a useful source of revenue, so much so that since the scheme was inaugurated in January, 1940 a profit equal to the Council's share of my salary for 6 years has been made. One can only express surprise that so little interest and enthusiasm has been shown in this very profitable service.

Sewerage and Drainage.

There has been no change, but the Council's Consulting Engineers prepared a scheme for re-sewering the Town, bearing in mind not only the very old and defective existing sewers, but also the need for opening up fresh building land, and for constructing a more modern and efficient Sewage Disposal Plant, and this scheme is now before the Kesteven County Council for their consideration.

Earth Closet Conversions.

Five Earth Closets were converted to Water Closets during the year. To encourage owners in this work the Council decided to contribute £10 or half the cost, whichever is the less, towards the cost of conversion in appropriate cases. One owner benefited by this concession.

Slaughterhouses.

The Government Central Slaughterhouse, and Klondyke Abattoir for the slaughter of horses for human consumption have been operating throughout the year, and both have been maintained in good condition. In September I had to call attention to the inadequate water supply at the Government Central Slaughterhouse, the bore having given up, and two or three Officers of different departments called to investigate and agreed to the necessity for connecting to the public main and promised that it should be done. The connection has not yet been made (March, 1946) and the slaughterhouse is without a sufficient supply of water.

Meat and Food.

A 100% inspection of carcases passing through the Government Central Slaughterhouse has been maintained, involving almost daily attendance at the slaughterhouse. The following are details of the inspections :—

Carcases —19 Bulls	442 Bullocks	261 Cows
253 Heifers	147 Calves	3087 Sheep
16 Lambs	355 Pigs	Total—4580
Weight of Meat and Offals condemned	...	53620 lbs.
		approx. 24 tons
Fresh, frozen, and tinned meat condemned at the W.M.S.A. Depôt	...	355 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Various Foods condemned at Wholesale and Retail Food Stores	...	703 $\frac{3}{8}$ lbs.
Horses notified as slaughtered at Klondyke Abattoir but not inspected at time of slaughter	...	575

Milk.

Two instances of dirty milk vessels were brought to notice and the retailer warned in both cases.

Tuberculosis in Milk.

The scheme of bi-monthly returns to the County Medical Officer of all Bulls, Cows and Calves found on slaughter to be affected with tuberculosis continued. In view of a number of affected cows coming from one particular herd after samples had given a negative result, I questioned the efficacy of the scheme and took the matter up with the County Medical Officer. His view was that the scheme was proving of value and desired its continuance.

Cowsheds and Dairies. *Factories and Workshops.* *Bakehouses.* A number of Inspections were carried out, but nothing was found necessitating action.

Disinfections.

Two disinfections were carried out during the year.

Disfestations.

Five disfestations (4 bug, 1 flea) were carried out.

Notices Served.

Five Statutory and Ninety-nine Informal Notices were served.

Complaints.

Fifty-one complaints were received and dealt with.

Child Protection.

Five children belonging to one family were removed from the care of their parents by order of the Magistrates, three younger children being allowed to remain, the father being required to enter into a recognisance of £5 to give these proper care and attention. This family has for long been a source of anxiety owing to the incompetence of the parents to provide a suitable home and environment for their family.

Defence Regulation 56A—Control of Civil Buildings.

At the request of the Ministry, the Council undertook the issue of licences for building work, and from August 1st to the end of the year 76 applications (including 1 maintenance) were received and 72 Licences (including 1 maintenance) were issued.

Housing.

A good deal of time and thought were given to the provision of houses, both temporary and permanent, and suggested lay-outs prepared. Eventually, terms offered me being not acceptable, the Council appointed a professional Architect, who is proceeding with a scheme for the erection of 50 houses. The offer of the Ministry to provide 20 temporary Bungalows, at first accepted, was declined.

The Council decided to build 4 houses at Dyke. This, in my opinion, is a mistake, there being no sewer available, and no water supply sufficient for a piped supply inside the houses. Added to this the fact that of the eight existing Council houses in Dyke the tenant of only one works there, I suggest that it would have been far better to have concentrated on the main scheme.

The 203 existing Council houses have been maintained in a good state of repair.

Conclusion.

The work of the Department has continued satisfactorily despite difficulties, and the sanitary condition of the Town has been maintained. There appeared at one time a possibility that a number of houses had become bug-infested, but only four more cases came to light, making seven in all—the only ones discovered during my 16 years in the town. It seems likely that these were brought in by war-time visitors, and early notification and prompt remedial measures have apparently been successful in eliminating this nuisance.

I thank you, Sir, for your continued support and co-operation throughout another year, and I acknowledge also the assistance of Council Members and other Officers.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

J. S. FISHER,
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

